3307. *[Transferred to the 4th December,* 1986].

Drought situation in Maharashtra

3308. SHRl JAGESH DESAI;
SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL; SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the drought situation in Maharashtra;

(b) the number of villages facing drinking water problem at present and affected on account of failure of crops in Maharashtra and the number Of problem villages likely to be pro vided drinking water in the next financial year;

(c) the extent of financial assistance provided by the entral Government to Maharashtra as against their demand and in which form; and

(d) whether any central team was sent to drought hit areas of Mahara shtra and if so, what are their re commendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OP AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRl YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In their Memorandum seeking Central assistance for drought relief, the State Govt, has reported that 4829 villages have been affected due to drought conditions. The State Government has also reported that at present about 354 villages are facing acute shortage of drinking water. Though detailed information is not available with the Govt. of Maharashtra they have sought assistance on an adhoc basis assuming that 15.COO villages would be affected by drinking water scarcity by June, 1987.

(c) and (d) The Memorandum was received on 12. Nov. 1986 and a Central Team has scheduled a visit to the State from Dec. 9, 1986 to assess the drought situation and the requirement of Central assistance.

Itchampalli Project in Andhra Pradesh

3309. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government bas received any proposal from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for Itchampalli project to control the floods in Godavari river;

(b)- if so, the total area to be irrigated by this project and details of power generation; and

(c) the present stage of the project and by when the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARA NAND); (a) and (b) The preliminary report on Itchampalli Project received in 1980 in Central Water Commission from Andhra Pradesh does not contained provision for flood control in Godavari. It envisages irrigation of 1.21 lakh hectares and power genera-tion with installed capacity • of 660 MW.

(c) Detailed Project Report has not been received so far.

Exploration Of mineral wealth in Andhra Pradesh

3310. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA; Will the Ministtr of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a thorough geological survey has been conducted in respect of the mineral wealth in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details of the various minerals proposed to be explored in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) what is the total amount alloca ted for exploration work in Andhra I Pradesh and steps taken for the I purpose of exploration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir, the Geological survey for mineral wealth in Andhra Pradesh is in progress.

(b) The various minerals proposed to be explored in Andhra Pradesh during 1986-87 are coal, diamond, gold phosphorite, graphite, asbestos, tin-tungsten and base metals (copper, lead and zinc).

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the house.

Slum Clearance ln Cities

3311. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is total amount allocated for. slum clearance in all the big cities in the country; and

(b) the amount allocated for slum clearance in Hyderabad and other big cities in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The present policy of the Government lays emphasis on environmental improvement of urban slums in site rather than their massive clearance and relocation. Under the State sector Scheme of Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums (EIUS) basic amenities are provided in the urban slums. The 7th Plan outlay for this scheme is Rs. 269.55 crores with a target of coverage of 9 million slum dwellers.

(b) The State Governments formulate and implement appropriate projects under the Scheme of EIUS, out of their Annual Plan provisions, in accordance with their needs and priorities. The 7th Plan outlay under the Scheme for Andhra Pradesh is Rs. 30.00 crores.

Profits earned by SAIL

3312.SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Steel Authority of India earned any profits during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) steps being taken to increase its profits further in future?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Yes, Sir. A statement showing the' profits loss made by SAIL during the last 3 years is given below:—

Rs, in crores

	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
Profit(+) Loss (—)	(—)214-53	(+H24	(+)159 00

(b) continuous efforts are being made by SAIL to improve its profitability. SAIL is endeavouring to:

(i)- Increase total production and also production of damand-orien-ted products by diversifying its productmix.

(ii) Upgrade the technological regimes as well as adopt to the extent possible, latest technologies at the time of modernisation/expansion of the projects;

(iii) Improve techno-economic parameters;

(iv) Improve yields of by-products and attain better recovery of waste and secondary arisings;

(v) Reduce inventories and working capital;

(vi) Improve maintenance of plant and equipment for better availability;

(vii) Optimise captive power generation and energy conservation;